

E-Devotional 5

Philippians 1:12-13 (ESV),

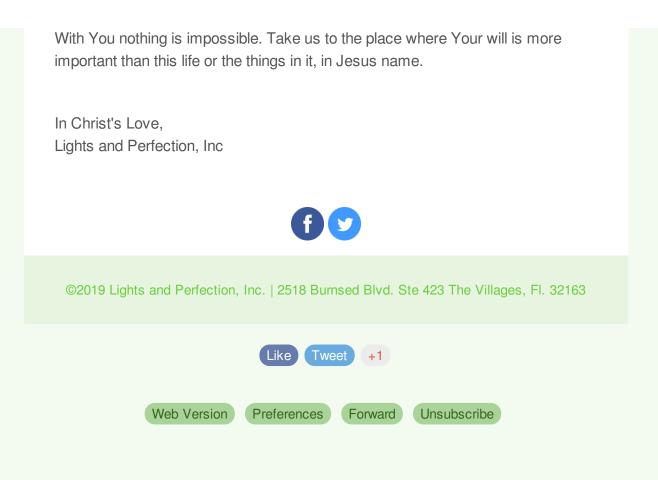
I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

Here is the Apostle Paul serving time in prison. We all know that ever since Paul grabbed a hold of Jesus that he was simply on fire until he died. He was absolutely passionate about his faith in Christ. This is one beautiful example of just how passionate he was for Christ.

This man is facing the possibility of death around every corner and he does not even flinch at the notion. This causes some serious intrigue in me and even goes as far as to provoke me to check my intentions on every angle. No matter what Paul went through or whatever hell was thrown at him, we see an unflinching man of God who sees way beyond his circumstances into the very heavens he is striving for. His heart was absolutely fixed on God and what God was trying to accomplish through him.

The goal and purpose of this devotional is to provoke us to recognize that God is using every single part of our lives so that He may receive the glory. He is literally positioning us in very specific places tailored to fit the gifts and graces He has put within us so that at the right time He can use us to glorify Jesus Christ His Son.

God's use of us is not dependent on how the situation looks or what may or may not be happening. He uses the least to the greatest in an equal fashion and He does this in some of the most ordinary ways so that He can do extraordinary things. I guess the whole point of this teaching is to look at Paul and how he declared that his imprisonment was for the furtherance of the gospel. Our lives too, are strategically placed exactly where God wants us so that He can further the gospel through us as well. The question is, are we complaining about where God has us? Or are we experiencing great joy just to be used by Him? The truth is that we should be so about the furtherance of the gospel that our temporary circumstances no longer move us. O Lord, You are a Great and Awesome God!



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